

Winter 2005



# Kansas Environmental News

## Secretary's Corner

In recent weeks, KDHE and local governments in three counties successfully launched a pilot recycling project to handle e-waste (electronic products including old computers, televisions, cell phones, and VCRs). These products currently go to Kansas landfills, but this project was successful in diverting thousands of pounds of electronics to be recycled. Our Bureau of Waste Management worked with Seward, Lyon and Chase counties to promote the effort and evaluate its effectiveness to determine if such a program would be beneficial statewide. E-waste contains hazardous materials such as lead and other heavy metals making it essential for Kansas and the U.S. to find ways to recycle this type of waste as a growing number of these products are disposed of each year.

KDHE, along with the Department of Wildlife and Parks, is working to ensure safety regarding fish consumption in Kansas, by issuing new fish advisory guidelines for the state. In addition to chlordane, the guidelines now include assessments for mercury and PCBs. The change updates regulations previously set in 1993. Chlordane and PCBs are no longer in use in the U.S.; and

therefore, fish tissue sampling is showing a downward trend for these chemicals in Kansas water bodies. Further evaluation of fish tissue sampling results for the past several years shows a downward trend in mercury levels in stream and river fish. Mercury levels in lake fish are being further evaluated from samples collected in late 2004. Seven Kansas water bodies have fish advisories under the new guidelines including four locations where the consumption of bottom feeding and bottom dwelling fish are to be avoided due to PCBs, Chlordane, perchlorate, lead and cadmium.

Kansas is also working to improve air quality and is one of 30 states that recently met the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new health-based standards for fine particle (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) air quality. This puts Kansas in attainment in each county and results in cleaner, safer air for Kansans. Fine particle pollution can aggravate heart and lung diseases and has been associated with a variety of serious health problems including heart attacks, chronic bronchitis and asthma attacks, according to EPA. Fine particle pollution results from emissions from motor vehicles as well as industrial processes. The air regulatory permitting program KDHE has in place, and the willingness of Kansas industry to follow the emission requirements, resulted in the state meeting these standards. In addition, there are fewer transportation emission issues because of the smaller population, which

*continued on page 2*

## *Inside this issue:*

Secretary's Corner . . . . .	1
Electronic Recycling Collection Events . . . . .	2
KDHE Regulations in Progress . . . . .	3
Kansas City Ozone Issues . . . . .	4
Stakeholder's Assess Solid Waste Management Practices . . . . .	5
Common Air Quality Violations . . . . .	6
Theresa Hodges Retires from KDHE . . . . .	6
KDHE Storage Tank Section Wins Award . . . . .	7
Pollution Prevention Awards Application . . . . .	7

also assists the state in attaining the standards set.

The Kansas Meth Watch Program has once again gained the national spotlight. This drug prevention program has been adopted as a national model to reduce or eliminate meth labs in Canada and Texas. It has been used as a model in more than 20 states. The Kansas Retailers' Meth Watch Program was developed by KDHE as a coordinated effort between retailers and law enforcement in the fight against methamphetamine production and abuse. The Consumer Healthcare Products Association adopted the program this summer as a model for other states and retailers.

Clean up projects are underway around the state as part of KDHE's Illegal Dump Program. Staff most recently worked with Barton County and the city of Hoisington to clean up an area south of town where illegal dumping has occurred for many years. The effort focused on household

and other hazardous wastes as well as tires. Several vacant homes in the area had been the target of illegal dumping and property owners in the area worked with KDHE to get the area cleaned up. Financial assistance through the KDHE program is available to cities and counties wishing to participate. To date more than 150 sites have been cleaned up through this state program.

This year KDHE has worked to assist communities and individuals with ways to make our state cleaner and safer, and our residents healthier. These efforts would not be possible without the help of Kansans who desire to see their state preserved and improved for generations to come. Thank you and have a great 2005.

Be well,

Rod

## *Two Successful Electronic Recycling Collection Events*

*by Kent Foerster, Bureau of Waste Management*

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Close to 50 (yes, 50) tons of personal computers, printers, televisions, VCRs, phones and related electronic wastes (**E-Wastes**) were collected in a 10-day period in November 2004. The city of Emporia and Seward County (Liberal) carried out the free electronic recycling collection pilot programs to celebrate **America Recycles Day** (Nov. 15), develop awareness, and an understanding about how to create a statewide E-Waste collection program.

Keith Senn and Tim Delcamp launched Emporia's collection event with their annual **America Recycles Day** festivities on Saturday, Nov. 13. Many people participated, filling an entire semi-trailer on the first day. Emporia ended up with a gross weight of 41.07 tons (82,140 pounds) - enough to fill seven 28-foot trailers.

Mike Tabor and Norvan Correll of the Seward County Landfill had a ten day collection event. Despite rainy weather, they collected 1,121 pieces of electronic waste including numerous computers, monitors, TVs and a few satellite receivers, adding machines, and the most unique item of the two collection events, two old ATMs.

All of the E-Wastes were shipped to an electronic waste recycler in Pennsylvania called **Envirocycle**. The

company started the first nationwide television and residential computer recycling programs and recycles/reuses more than 95 percent of the E-Wastes they receive. Once they process all the materials, KDHE will be able to make some assessments and recommendations for the future of E-Waste Recycling in Kansas.

KDHE sponsored these events by purchasing promotion, transportation, and the recycling of the E-Wastes. Nye and Associates of Wichita developed the campaign logos and materials, and handled the television, radio, and newspaper buys. The city of Emporia and Seward County Landfill donated their facilities and provided the hard work to collect, sort, and pack all of the TVs, monitors and PCs. KDHE acknowledges the fantastic efforts of these local heroes. The \$1 solid waste tonnage fee assessed on all municipal solid waste disposed and transferred in Kansas funded these events.

Free up  
your space!  
Recycle e-waste.



**e.waste**  
A PROGRAM OF KANSAS DON'T SPOIL IT

## *KDHE Regulations in Process*

The following table depicts the KDHE regulations that are in the process of being developed, amended, or revoked. If you have questions on any of the regulations, feel free to contact Cathy Colglazier at 800-357-6087.

Regulation	Division Draft	EPA Review	DOA Review	AG Review	Public Hearing	Effective
<b><u>Waste Management</u></b>						
Definitions (A)	*1/05	N/A	*2/05	*3/05	*5/05	*7/05
Tires (A)	2/04	N/A	*3/05	*4/05	*6/05	*8/05
Hazardous Waste Update (A)	*1/05	*2/05	*4/05	*6/05	*8/05	*10/05
Industrial Landfills	*1/06	N/A	*3/06	*4/06	*6/06	*8/06
<b><u>Air and Radiation</u></b>						
Acid Rain Permits (A)	*12/04	N/A	*1/05	*2/05	*5/05	*6/05
Acid Rain Nox (N)	*12/04	N/A	*1/05	*2/05	*5/05	*6/05
Update Standards (NSPS, MA)	3/04	N/A	6/04	7/04	10/04	12/04
Consolidate Air Rule (N)	3/04	N/A	6/04	7/04	10/04	12/04
Definitions (A)	*12/04	N/A	*1/05	*2/05	*5/05	*6/05
Inventory Report Regs	6/04	N/A	*12/04	*1/05	*4/05	*5/05
Transportation Conformity (A)	10/04	N/A	*12/04	*1/05	*4/05	*5/05
Permitting Rules (A)	6/04	N/A	*1/05	*2/05	*5/05	*6/05
<b><u>Water</u></b>						
Surface WQS	5/04	*3/05	6/04	6/04	10/04	*12/04
<b><u>Geology</u></b>						
Water Well (GMD #2) (N)	2/04	N/A	8/04	*1/05	*3/05	*4/05
<b><u>Livestock Waste Management</u></b>						
Groundwater (N) (A) (R)	12/03	N/A	5/04	11/04	*4/05	*6/05
<b><u>Environmental Remediation</u></b>						
Surface Mining	9/03	N/A	*12/04	*3/05	*6/05	*9/05
Environmental Use Control	6/04	N/A	*2/05	*5/05	*9/05	*12/05
New (N), Amended (A), Revoked (R) * Denotes projected date.						
						Updated 12/21/04

# *Kansas City Ozone Activities*

*by Tom Gross, Bureau of Air and Radiation*

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The greater Kansas City area is close to violating the national air quality standard for ozone. EPA has established a standard of 85 parts per billion (ppb) averaged over three years. Ground-level ozone causes sickness and premature death by aggravating a variety of lung disorders such as asthma and emphysema. Ozone is formed by a reaction between sunlight, nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Nitrogen oxides come from burning fuels, while VOCs evaporate from solvents, paints, and gasoline. The recorded ozone values for the three-year period ending in 2003 were one ppb below the standard.

If ozone levels continue to rise, the greater Kansas City region could become a nonattainment area for ozone. Under the federal Clean Air



Act, states with ozone nonattainment areas must implement measures that will bring these areas into compliance with the standard. Under federal law, nonattainment areas may face a host of restrictions

on development and use of federal funds, both of which can significantly impact economic growth of the region.

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) coordinates air quality planning activities for the greater Kansas City area. In response to the concern over the elevated ozone readings, MARC created a work group to develop a clean air action plan for Kansas City. The plan will include various pollutant reduction strategies designed to help keep Kansas City in compliance with the standard.

One tool that is being used to better understand ozone formation in Kansas City is photochemical modeling. Photochemical modeling is a

computer simulation of an ozone episode using meteorological and air pollutant emission inputs. The first step in photochemical modeling is to select an episode representative of high ozone readings in Kansas City. The episode being modeled is one week in July 1998. Extensive meteorological data for the episode has been collected and input into the model to recreate the weather conditions that existed during the high ozone readings of that week. Air pollutant emissions data has also been gathered from all sources of air pollutants. These emission sources include: permitted sources; automobiles and trucks; offroad vehicles such as tractors and construction equipment; natural sources; and various other activities such as pesticide application, painting and lawn care.

The computer model processes the various inputs and predicts ozone concentrations across the Kansas City area. If these compare favorably with the measured values from the 1998 episode selected, the model is performing satisfactorily and can be used to evaluate different air pollutant control strategies to reduce ozone levels in Kansas City. The model allows us to determine the effectiveness of different control strategies by conducting what are referred to as “sensitivity runs.” This is done by reducing the emissions inputs for the model from a selected category of emissions, such as motor vehicles. The predicted ozone concentrations tell us the effectiveness of the proposed strategy. Many different emission control strategies will be evaluated using the model to ensure that any programs put in place to reduce ozone levels will be effective.

Additional information about ozone in Kansas City can be obtained from the MARC Web site at [www.marc.org/airq](http://www.marc.org/airq).

# *Stakeholders Assess State Solid Waste Management Practices*

*by Bill Bider, Bureau of Waste Management*

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On Oct. 28, about 40 “solid waste stakeholders” met with Bureau of Waste Management staff in Salina to discuss a wide variety of solid waste issues. The primary purpose of the meeting was to solicit input that could be used to help perform a scheduled update to the Kansas solid waste management plan. The current 2000 plan calls for a five-year update in early 2005.

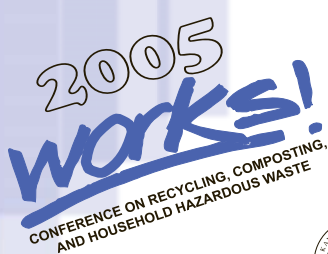

Feedback was received on 18 separate solid waste issues. After a period of discussion, stakeholders assigned a “grade” for how well we are doing as a state (A to F scale) and provided written comments that specifically identified needs. In addition, seven emerging issues were discussed rated in terms of statewide importance (using a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest). Input was also received on how KDHE should cope with anticipated solid waste budget shortfalls, if the landfill tipping fee remains fixed at \$1 per ton.

In most areas, stakeholders gave Kansas fairly good grades (12 Bs, 5 Cs, and 1 D). Even though there was good overall consistency in stakeholder opinions, there were some outliers for almost every issue. For example, most stakeholders gave a grade of “C” to new facility siting; however, a couple people thought state siting procedures deserved an “A” while others thought it deserved an “F.”

Areas that received grades of “C” or below are of greatest concern. These include statewide facility capacity, compliance monitoring, long-term care at landfills, new facility siting, data collection and reporting (most concerns involved recycling), and state procurement of products made from recycled materials (the only “D”). Despite receiving a grade of “B” in most areas, stakeholders still had numerous comments and recommendation for improvement, especially as related to waste reduction activities.

The most important emerging issue to stakeholders was “e-waste management” which received an average rating of 4.28. There was very strong sentiment that Kansas needed to develop a plan to manage this growing waste stream. The next most important issues to the stakeholders in order of importance were product stewardship (3.78), the establishment of a new recycling association (3.50), and planning for the disposal of diseased livestock carcasses (3.28).

This stakeholder feedback, particularly the detailed written comments, will be very helpful in preparing the undated state solid waste management plan.



March 29 - 31, 2005  
Bethel College  
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“Taking Recycling, Composting  
& HHW Management  
to the Next Level”



Kansas Department of Health & Environment  
Bureau of Waste Management  
[www.kdhe.state.ks.us/waste/works2005](http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/waste/works2005)



## Common Air Quality Violations

by Russ Brichacek, Bureau of Air and Radiation

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Many Kansas businesses have operations that produce air emissions that are regulated by the Clean Air Act (CAA) and the Kansas Air Quality Act and Regulations. These regulations set equipment and process limitations to control the emission of air pollutants from various facilities.

Kansas air quality control field inspectors perform more than 1275 routine inspections and complaint investigations each year to determine compliance with Kansas Air Quality Control Statutes and Regulations. We would like to share their experience with you, and encourage you to consider this information in self audits. The following are 10 common regulatory violations observed during inspections.

1. Required reports, records and logs not maintained onsite and available for inspectors' review.
2. Failure to perform required equipment and process monitoring, related to reduction of air pollutant emissions.
3. Failure to obtain a required Air Emission Source Construction Permit or Approval prior to the certain construction or modifications at a facility.
4. Failure to obtain a required Air Emission Source Operating Permit prior to regulatory due dates.
5. Failure to conduct required air emission source testing (performance testing) to demonstrate compliance with applicable air regulations, prior to due date for compliance.
6. Failure to install, maintain or operate required air pollution control equipment.
7. Illegal open burning of waste materials, including such tires, building demolition wastes, and commercial and industrial wastes.
8. Exceeding visible emissions limitations, set by opacity readings, as set within air permit conditions and air emission control regulations.
9. Emission of regulated air pollutants in excess of limitations set within air permits and air emission limitation regulations, measured in pounds per hour or tons per year.
10. Violation of requirements set forth in an enforcement action against the facility.

If you are a facility environmental coordinator, take a few minutes to review your air quality permits and regulatory requirements. If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact the air program at (785) 296-6422.

## Theresa Hodges Retires from KDHE

by Cathy Colglazier, Bureau of Environmental Field Services

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After 31 years of state service, Theresa Hodges has decided it's time to take it easy. A reception was held on Dec. 17 to celebrate her retirement. Theresa started her career with the state of Kansas in 1973 as a microbiologist with the State Health Laboratory. While working at the laboratory, Theresa pursued a Master's degree in microbiology from the University of Kansas and received that degree in 1984. She subsequently moved from the analytical laboratory to the Laboratory Improvement Section. In 1993, Theresa moved to the Division of Environment to establish the

Pollution Prevention program. In 1996, Theresa moved to the Bureau of District Operations (now known as the Bureau of Environmental Field Services) where she oversaw the district office environmental staff as well as the various surface water quality monitoring programs administered by KDHE. She served as Interim Director for the Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratory from January through July 2002. Theresa will be greatly missed. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

# *KDHE Storage Tank Section Wins National Award*

*by Greg Hattan, Bureau of Environmental Remediation*

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The KDHE BER Storage Tank Section recently received the award for Best Policy, Innovation, and Productivity, at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual State Fund Administrators Conference in Providence, R.I.

The participants at this event were various representatives of the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Programs from all 50 States and the Territories. This competition, sponsored by The Association of State Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Funds and the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO), is an annual event which evaluates successes of State Funds in three categories: Financial Success; Policy, Innovation, and Productivity; and Success with Stakeholders. All states were encouraged to submit entries in each of the three categories. The judges for the competition were selected by a panel of peers selected by the two sponsoring organizations.



KDHE UST Unit Chiefs were encouraged to submit entries on innovative topics that are unique to their respective programs. Seven entries were ultimately submitted in the Policy, Innovation, and Productivity category. Topics included:

- Soil Vapor Extraction and Air Sparging Utilizing Large Diameter Borings, an innovative approach to remediation in areas where conventional technologies are not conducive to successful remediation;
- Monitored Natural Attenuation, how the numerous sites in the Monitoring Unit are addressed;
- The site closure process of Kansas Risk Based Corrective Action (KRBCA);
- KDHE Remedial System Incentive Program A “Refined” Pay for Performance Idea, designed to improve system performance and increase effectiveness, based on up-time of the equipment;
- The Excavation Program, an expedited, cost effective approach for contaminated soil removal and disposal;
- Remedial Design Implementation Plan (ReDIP), a source area remediation process targeting sites with similar characteristics designed to increase the number of sites achieving remedial goals;
- UST Fields/ Property Development, an expedited process developed to evaluate and remediate blighted municipal properties.

Each of the success stories were reflective of not only the hard work and dedication exemplified by the UST personnel, but also an ability to “think outside the box” to achieve goals of the Underground Storage Tank Program that were previously unattainable. The results indicate what those of us which work in the program already knew... the Kansas UST Program is one of the most innovative, productive, and successful programs in the nation.

The 2005 Pollution Prevention Award application will soon be available at [http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/sbcs/p2\\_pollution\\_prevention\\_awards.html](http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/sbcs/p2_pollution_prevention_awards.html). KDHE presents the annual awards to individuals, communities or community groups, businesses and industries who have made a significant impact in protecting our environment by preventing pollution.



The award categories have been changed so make sure you read the application thoroughly! The new categories are: Pollution Prevention; Energy Efficiency; Technology Innovation; Environmental Management System; Recycling; Education and Outreach

Don't miss this opportunity to obtain recognition for all of your hard work! Applications will be due Friday, June 24, 2005. Contact Cathy Colglazier at 800-357-6087 if you have any questions on the awards program.

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*Save the date!*

## **2005 Kansas Environment Conference**

August 23 - 25, 2005  
Hyatt Regency  
Wichita, Kansas

*Feel free to e-mail conference and session suggestions  
to Cathy Colglazier at [ccolglaz@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:ccolglaz@kdhe.state.ks.us).*

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